

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: G. THOMAS  
Serial No.: (Not Yet Assigned)  
Filed: (On Even Date Herewith)  
For: CONFERENCE CALL METHOD AND APPARATUS  
THEREFOR  
Art Unit: (Not Yet Assigned)  
Examiner: (Not Yet Assigned)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

May 29, 2001

Sir:

Prior to calculation of the filing fee, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Please amend the specification as indicated in the marked-up copy of the original specification. A substitute specification is included to replace the original specification.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace original claims 1-18 with the following claims:

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1. A communications device for performing conferencing, the device being operable in a first radio communications network and a second different radio communications network and comprising a first transceiver for establishing a channel for connection in the first network and a second transceiver for establishing a channel for connection in the second network and a controller for establishing a call in the first network and routing the call through the channel in the second network.

2. A device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the controller is operable to selectably add members of the first network to the call.

3. A device as claimed in Claim 2, including a memory holding data relating to current members of the first network from which the controller selects members to add to the call.

4. A device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the controller is operable to remove a member of the first network from the call.

5. A device as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the controller, in accordance with data held in the memory, is inhibited from the selection of a current member of the first network for addition to the call.

6. A device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

7. A device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

8. A method of performing conferencing using a communications device and comprising establishing a channel for connection in a first network, establishing a channel for connection in a second different network, establishing a call in the first network and routing the call through the channel in the second network.

9. A method as claimed in Claim 8, including selecting members of the first network to add to the call.

10. A method as claimed in Claim 8, including storing data relating to current members of the first network.

11. A method as claimed in Claim 9, including storing data indicative of whether a member of the first network may be selected for addition to the call.

12. A method as claimed in Claim 8, including removing a member of the first network from the call.

13. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 1.

14. A radio communications system comprising a base station of a second radio communications network and a plurality of communication devices forming a



21. A device as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the controller is operable to remove a member of the first network from the call.

22. A device as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the controller, in accordance with data held in the memory, is inhibited from the selection of a current member of the first network for addition to the call.

23. A device as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

24. A device as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

25. A device as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

26. A device as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

27. A device as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

28. A device as claimed in Claim 3, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

29. A device as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

30. A device as claimed in Claim 5, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

31. A device as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

32. A method as claimed in Claim 9, including storing data relating to current members of the first network.

33. A method as claimed in Claim 10, including storing data indicative of whether a member of the first network may be selected for addition to the call.

34. A method as claimed in Claim 9, including removing a member of the first network from the call.

35. A method as claimed in Claim 10, including removing a member of the first network from the call.

36. A method as claimed in Claim 11, including removing a member of the first network from the call.

37. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 2.

38. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 3.

39. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 4.

40. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 5.

41. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 6.

42. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in Claim 7.

43. A system as claimed in Claim 15, wherein the device includes a memory holding data relating to current members of the first network.

44. A system as claimed in Claim 15, in which the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

45. A system as claimed in Claim 16, in which the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

46. A system as claimed in Claim 15, in which the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

47. A system as claimed in Claim 16, in which the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

48. A system as claimed in Claim 17, in which the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.--

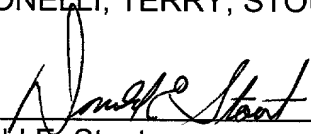
REMARKS

The claims have been amended to remove multiple dependent claims prior to calculation of the filing fee.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, or credit any overpayment of fees, to the deposit account of Antonelli, Terry, Stout & Kraus, LLP, Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (367.40151X00).

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachments



## ORIGINAL CLAIMS MARKED-UP

1. A communications device for performing conferencing, the device being operable in a first radio communications network and a second different radio communications network and comprising a first transceiver for establishing a channel for connection in the first network and a second transceiver for establishing a channel for connection in the second network and a controller for establishing a call in the first network and routing the call through the channel in the second network.

2. A device as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the controller is operable to selectably add members of the first network to the call.

3. A device as claimed in Claim 2, including a memory holding data relating to current members of the first network from which the controller selects members to add to the call.

4. A device as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1, wherein the controller is operable to remove a member of the first network from the call.

5. A device as claimed in Claim 3, ~~and in any Claim appendant thereto,~~ wherein the controller, in accordance with data held in the memory, is inhibited from the selection of a current member of the first network for addition to the call.

6. A device as claimed in ~~any preceding~~ Claim 1, wherein the first

transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

7. A device as claimed in ~~any preceding Claim 1~~, wherein the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

8. A method of performing conferencing using a communications device and comprising establishing a channel for connection in a first network, establishing a channel for connection in a second different network, establishing a call in the first network and routing the call through the channel in the second network.

9. A method as claimed in Claim 8, including selecting members of the first network to add to the call.

10. A method as claimed in Claim 8, ~~or Claim 9~~, including storing data relating to current members of the first network.

11. A method as claimed in Claim 9, ~~or Claim 10~~ as appendant thereto, including storing data indicative of whether a member of the first network may be selected for addition to the call.

12. A method as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 8 to 11~~, Claim 8, including removing a member of the first network from the call.

13. A first radio communications network including a device as claimed in

any one of Claims 1 to 7 Claim 1.

14. A radio communications system comprising a base station of a second radio communications network and a plurality of communication devices forming a first wireless communications network, at least one of which devices being operable in the first radio communications network and the second different radio communications network and comprising a first transceiver for establishing a channel for connection in the first network and a second transceiver for establishing a channel for connection to the base station in the second network and a controller for establishing a call in the first network and routing the call through the channel in the second network.

15. A system as claimed in Claim 14, wherein the controller is selectably operable and add members of the first network to the call.

16. A system as claimed in Claim 14, ~~or Claim 15~~, wherein the device includes a memory holding data relating to current members of the first network.

17. A system as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 14 to 16~~, Claim 14, in which the first transceiver is adapted for use in a low power radio frequency network.

18. A system as claimed in ~~any one of Claims 14 to 17~~, Claim 14, in which the second transceiver is adapted for use in a cellular mobile radio network.

~~19. A device as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the controller is operable to  
remove a member of the first network from the call.~~

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Conference call method and apparatus therefor

## Background of the Invention

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The present invention relates both to a method and to apparatus for establishing a conference or multi-party call including members of a wireless local area network, particularly, although not exclusively, a low power radio-frequency network (LPRF).

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The development of wireless local area networks has stemmed from a desire to replace the cabling and line of sight techniques presently required to connect modern digital electronic equipment such as personal computers, printers, facsimile machines and the like. In addition, the network confers the further advantage of enabling users to form relatively small ad hoc networks or piconets which can bridge to existing voice and data networks and, indeed, another piconet to form a multiple piconet structure or scatternet.

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A digital device capable of utilising a wireless local area network will be provided with a module providing additional functionality in the form of a radio unit, a link control unit, link management and the relevant software including that necessary to interface with the functionality of the device. It has been proposed to provide cellular radio telephone with such a module. Once connected to the network a user of the telephone should be able to transfer data such as phone book entries, for example both to and from his telephone to other devices such as a personal computer, a printer or the like attached to the network.

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A traditional use of telephones for group working has been conferencing. Traditionally, a conference call has been established using the Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN). Such a call to multiple participants requires the establishment, over the PSTN of a number of connections.

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